

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAMS

Two tuition reimbursement programs are available for the 2004-05 school year. DESE has established contracts with the institutions of higher education that have DESE approved teacher certification programs in one or more of the following special education certification areas:

Mild/Moderate Cross Categorical

Visually Impaired

Hearing Impaired

Severe Developmentally Disabled

The institutions of higher education that are currently participating are listed at the end of this document. Contracts are in place to support tuition reimbursement for courses completed after July 1, 1999, for the following two groups of individuals:

Paraprofessionals, including paraprofessionals who are minorities or individuals with disabilities

Paraprofessionals who are eligible for tuition reimbursement must have successfully completed approximately 60 hours of college coursework, have a letter from their current district of employment which confirms at least two years of successful employment as a special education paraprofessional and contains either the superintendent's or director of special education's recommendation. The letter must also indicate the ways in which the district will support the paraprofessional to reach the goal of certification in special education. Support must include release time, when necessary, for travel and class time. Other supports offered by the district could include support for travel, books or other related expenses, a mentor within the district or either full or partial tuition reimbursement if the total statewide tuition reimbursement costs exceed the funding available.

Teachers, including teachers who are minorities or individuals with disabilities and who hold Missouri Certification in any area of general education

All general education teachers, including first year teachers, are eligible for tuition reimbursement and must have a letter from the superintendent or director of special education which indicates their recommendation for the individual to obtain certification in an area of special education. The letter must indicate the reasons for the recommendation and, as stated above, include the ways in which the

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district will support the teacher in obtaining the goal of special education certification.

Paraprofessionals and general education teachers who have a letter of recommendation from their district should contact eligible colleges/universities in their geographical area. The letter of recommendation will serve as authorization to participate in the SIG tuition reimbursement program. Participants must obtain a C or better grade in each course to be eligible for tuition reimbursement. The expected outcome of these activities will be to increase the number of teachers certificated in special education by 300 at the end of the five year period.

[Questions and Answers Regarding Tuition Reimbursement](#)

Colleges and Universities with Contracts for Tuition Reimbursement (as of September 1, 2001)

*** Institutions that are also participating in the paraprofessional tuition reimbursement program.**

Avila College (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

11901 Wornall Road
Kansas City, MO 64145-1698
phone: (816) 501-3761
Dr. Marie Joan Harris

***Central Missouri State University** (Severe Developmental Disabilities,
Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

Lovinger 205
Warrensburg, MO 64093
phone: 660-543-4881
Dr. Larry Keisker

***Columbia College** (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

1001 Rogers Street
Columbia, MO 65216
phone: 573-875-7679
Dr. Becky Widener

***Culver-Stockton** (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

One College Hill
Canton, MO 63435-1299
phone: 417-231-6543
Ms. Norma Richmond

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***Fontbonne** (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical, Deaf/Hearing Impaired)

6800 Wydown Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63105-3098
phone: 314-889-4536
Dr. William Freeman

***Lindenwood University** (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

209 S. Kingshighway
St. Charles, MO 63301
phone: 314-916-7411
Dr. Richard Boyle

***Missouri Baptist College** (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

1 College Park Drive
St. Louis, MO 63141-8698
phone: 314-392-2324
Angela McGowan

Missouri Southern State College (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

3950 E. Newman Road
Joplin, MO 64801-1595
phone: 417-625-9746
Ms. Lorinda Hackett

***Missouri Valley College** (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

500 East College
Marshall, MO 65340
phone: 660-831-4122
Dr. Earl Wellborn

***Northwest Missouri State University** (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

800 University Drive
Maryville, MO 64468
phone: 660-562-1358
Dr. Max Ruhl

Southeast Missouri State University (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)

One University Plaza MS5575
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701-4799
phone: 573-651-2196
Dr. Gale McMahan

***Southwest Missouri State University** (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical,

Deaf/Hearing Impaired)
901 S. National Ave.
Springfield, MO 65804-0095

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phone: 417-836-4222
Dr. Chris Craig

University of Missouri-Columbia (Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)
308 McReynolds
Columbia, MO 65211
phone: 573-882-0561
Ms. Melissa Stormont

University of Missouri-St. Louis (Visually Impaired, Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)
8001 Natural Bridge Rd., 201 Educ. Admin. Bldg.
St. Louis, MO 63121
phone: 314-516-5332
Dr. Stephen Viola

***Webster University** (Severe Developmental Disabilities, Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical)
470 East Lockwood Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63119
phone: 314-961-2660 x7093
Dr. Vicki McMullen

Missouri Western State College
4525 Downs Drive
St. Joseph, MO 64507
phone: (816) 271-4365
Sonya Price